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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 SY-05 IO-14 /101 W
-----113888 310524Z /13

R 301237Z JAN 79
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4104
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AEP

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny
Exemption(s): _____
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full
☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to _____
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

PARIS 03124

E.O. 12065: GDS 1-30-85 (ZIMMERMANN, WARREN) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, PINT, AR, FR
SUBJECT: [REDACTED] DEATH OF ELENA HOLMBERG

REF: BUENOS AIRES 0436

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT

2. RE PARA 7 REF, WE ARE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ANY
SIGNIFICANT DETAILS RE ELENA HOLMBERG'S PARIS ACTIVITIES,
ALTHOUGH EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES'S COMMENT TO EFFECT THAT
HER DEATH COULD HAVE BEEN LINKED TO MASSERA-ARMY
RIVALRY MAY HAVE SOME FOUNDATION. ON JANUARY 19 ONE OF
HOLMBERG'S CLOSEST PERSONAL FRIENDS IN PARIS TELEPHONED
LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS EMBOFF TO ADVISE HIM THAT SHE
HAD JUST ATTENDED MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR HOLMBERG AT
ARGENTINE EMBASSY PARIS. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, THE
ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, TOMAS J. DE ANCHORENA,
IS PARTICULARLY UPSET OVER HOLMBERG'S DEATH AS FELT HE

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MAY HAVE UNWITTINGLY CONTRIBUTED TO IT. WHILE IN PARIS
HOLMBERG WORKED CLOSELY WITH ANCHORENA, WHO IS KNOWN

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TO BE STAUNCHLY ANTI-MASSERA AND POLITICALLY ALIGNED WITH VIDELA FORCES. ACCORDING TO ARGENTINE FIRST SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN PARIS, ANCHORENA MAY BE IN LINE FOR CABINET LEVEL POSITION SHOULD VIDELA'S STATUS QUO CONTINUE.

3.. MISS HOLMBERG, WHO WAS WELL KNOWN TO SEVERAL EMBOFFS, WAS PAST PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATIC ASSOCIATION IN PARIS AND ACTIVE IN THE LOCAL DIPLOMATIC AND JOURNALISTIC MILIEU. PARIS WAS HER FIRST OVERSEAS DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENT AND SHE COMPLETELY IMMERSSED HERSELF IN THE FRENCH SCENE. A VEHEMENT ANTI-PERONIST, HOLMBERG LOST A KIDNEY CIRCA 1973, THE RESULT OF A BLOW FROM A POLICEMAN'S BATON WHILE PARTICIPATING IN AN ANTI-PERON DEMONSTRATION DURING HER STUDENT DAYS. SHE WAS AN INTENSE ARGENTINE PATRIOT, ALLOWING NO ONE TO CRITICIZE HER COUNTRY WHILE IN HER PRESENCE. HER COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS IN PARIS DESCRIBE HER AS ANTI-COMMUNIST, INDEPENDENT AND EXTREMELY OUTSPOKEN ON THE SUBJECT OF ARGENTINE POLITICS, A HABIT THAT MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO HER UNTIMELY DEMISE.
CHAPMAN

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